

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A production method for a circular body, comprising the steps of:

~~_____ whereby cutting~~ a rolled steel plate is ~~cut in given dimensions~~ to form a blank, wherein cut surfaces on each side of the blank are inclined relative to a thickness direction of the blank such that an inclination direction of the cut surfaces on each side is reversed;

~~_____ roll-forming~~ the blank is ~~roll-formed to cause the~~ in a direction to cause the cut surfaces on each side of the blank to be parallel to one another and to confront each other;

~~_____ laser welding the confronting cut surfaces to one another,~~ the confronted sections are welded to form a cylindrical body; and,

~~_____ forming~~ the cylindrical body is ~~then formed~~ into a circular body of a predetermined shape, ~~comprising the steps of: in the case of cutting the rolled steel plate, causing the cut surfaces on each side to incline relative to the thickness direction of the rolled steel plate to reverse the inclination direction of the cut surfaces on each side; and~~

~~_____ in the case of confrontation of the cut surfaces on each side, roll-forming the~~

~~blank in the direction in which the cut surfaces are parallel, then laser welding the cut surfaces.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The production method for a circular body according to claim 1, wherein the circular body is a rim and ~~the~~an angle of inclination of the cut ~~surface~~surfaces is 1 to 3 degrees relative to the thickness direction.